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# Route of Colors

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## The Route of Colors

(Imperial Speech: 彩色之路) named after one of its primary trades—colorful fabrics and vibrant gemstones—is one of the oldest trade routes in the world and remains the only one of such antiquity still active.

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## History

The exact origins of the Route of Colors are unknown, but it is believed to have been established long before the rise of the Northern Kingdoms and the Nilfgaardian Empire. It is estimated that during the time when the legends of the country of Zongguo, located in the center of what is today [Bia Thin](#), dividing the region between north and south, suggest that it was a powerful empire encompassing what is now this region. Originally a national trade route, it is said to have soon extended to other ancient powers, such as the Empire of Magne, which could explain the connection with the eastern parts of the Nilfgaardian Empire, being a reuse of these route. Archaeological excavations in Bia Thin have uncovered gnomish swords in the east and other products manufactured in Tir Tochair. For their part, excavations in Tir Tochair have found the so-called dragon coins from [Buyan](#), known as íongyín, which could corroborate this theory. However, it cannot be confirmed with certainty, as the Biathinians could have acquired these swords through merchants from [Kilan-Tal](#) later on (who trade more with the Northern Kingdoms and the Nilfgaardian Empire), and the gnomes of Tir Tochair could have obtained these coins through other trade routes.


## The Route

The route currently commences in present-day Xuánpǔ, traverses Zongguo and [Meru](#), along with many other countries and extends to [Ketu Rahu](#), proceeds through Lichavis and Buyan, while passing trough more countries and then heads towards the eastern expanse of the Nilfgaardian Empire. It then veers eastward to cross part of the Korath Desert and much of [Zerrikania](#) before

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
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
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ultimately arriving at [Kilan-Tal](#). This path represents the original route, which later expanded to encompass territories of the [Jasha Republic](#) and eventually reach [Vinland](#). As such, it facilitates connections between the [Far East](#), the [Far North](#), and the eastern territories of the Nilfgaardian Empire with the distant Nordling duchy

It takes around several months for caravans to traverse the entire Route of Colors, depending on weather conditions, political stability along the route, and other factors such as bandits, dangerous animals and monsters.

## Trivia

- The main inspiration is both the old and the new Silk Road.

## Categories

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